TRAFFIC ENGINEERING COMMITTEE MINUTES
June 10, 2014

Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT
Dan Baxter, TEC Chairman
Jerry Whitaker, Staff
Rick Seanor, Staff
Roger Vincent, Public Representative
Trent Taylor, UPD
Ben Kageyama, Staff
Kim Jordan, Staff

OTHERS PRESENT
Meredyth Reinhard, Social Services
Kathy Smith, Safety Officer, UVMC
Dixie Myers

MEMBERS ABSENT
John Lampi, Public Representative

STAFF PRESENT
Jarod Thiele
Lory Limbird

1. CALL TO ORDER
The Traffic Engineering Committee meeting was called to order by Chairperson Baxter at 3:02 pm in Conference Room No. 3, Ukiah Civic Center, 300 Seminary Ave, Ukiah, California.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 11, 2014
M/S: Taylor/Vincent to approve February 11, 2014 minutes. Motion carried by an all AYE voice vote of the members present.

3. AUDIENCE COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS
none

4. OLD BUSINESS
Member Vincent asked if it is still being considered to reduce the speed limit in front of Yokayo School to 15 mph.

Member Seanor replied it would take an evaluation by a traffic engineer in order to reduce the speed limit.

5. NEW BUSINESS
a. Discussion and Provide Direction to Staff Regarding Pedestrian Crosswalks on Perkins Street.

Member Seanor introduced this item. Staff received a letter from Ms. Gwen Matthews, President/CEO of Ukiah Valley Medical Center regarding pedestrian crosswalks on Perkins Street. Attachment “B” is a photomap showing the general crosswalk locations but not the current configuration. On Perkins Street at Warren Drive there is a diagonally hatched crosswalk with an in-street pedestrian crossing sign. On Perkins Street at Leslie Street there is a diagonally hatched crosswalk. Lastly, on Perkins Street at Hospital Drive there is a crosswalk at a traffic signal.

The signal controlled intersection at Perkins Street and Hospital Drive is the recommended crossing location since pedestrians have pedestrian signals which can be activated to cross the street.

The city has contracted with a consultant to prepare a Perkins Street Gateway Streetscape Study. Staff will review with the consultant the concerns of crossing at uncontrolled intersections.
UVMC Safety Officer Smith stated the hospital has an Education Center at 495 Perkins Street. UVMC encourages staff to use the crosswalk at the signal controlled intersection at Hospital Drive. Motorists drive very fast on Perkins Street and forget to look for pedestrians causing unsafe conditions. UVMC is looking for a solution to this problem. UVMC was happy to hear about consideration for pedestrian crossings through the Perkins Street Gateway Streetscape Study.

Chairman Baxter summarized that the consultants preparing the Perkins Street Gateway Streetscape Study will be made aware of the UVMC concerns so suggestions for a solution can be incorporated into the project.

b. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Yellow Loading Zone on Church Street between S. Oak Street and S. School Street.

Member Seanor introduced this item. Staff received a letter from Mr. Edward Stamelos regarding the loading zone on Church Street between S Oak Street and S. School Street. Mr. Stamelos was trapped when cars were parked along the south side of Church Street and a vehicle was using the yellow loading zone on the north side of the street leaving insufficient width for through traffic to pass.

Mr. Stamelos was notified by letter of this meeting.

When using the loading zone, vehicles have been observed parking on the sidewalk.

Within a one-block range from the Church Street loading zone there are a total of 7 loading zones. In staff’s opinion, there are more than enough loading zones in this area. A map of the existing loading zones in this area was distributed.

Rather than eliminate parking spaces to retain the loading zone on Church Street, staff proposes that the yellow loading zone at this location be eliminated.

Member Taylor added that the parking enforcement lady frequently has to back people out of this area and he has been stuck there himself.

M/S: Taylor/Jordan to eliminate the yellow loading zone on Church Street west of School Street. Motion passed by an all AYE vote of the members present except for Member Whitaker who abstained.

Member Whitaker stated his opinion that drivers will use School Street as a loading zone and then the street sweeper will not be able to totally sweep the street.

Member Vincent asked if the City would restripe that area of the curb to red so no one will park on the sidewalk.

Member Whitaker answered “Yes”.

c. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Request for Removal of No Parking Zone at 137 Ford Street.

Member Seanor introduced this item. Staff received a letter from Dixie Myers requesting removal of the No Parking Zone at 137 Ford Street.

Ford Street at this location is a two way street with curb and gutter along most of the street. Within the last few years, curb, gutter and sidewalk were constructed along the frontage of 137 Ford Street. Parking is not restricted along the north side of Ford Street at this location. The No
Parking restriction adjacent to 137 Ford street was posted several years ago prior to the completion of the curb, gutter, and sidewalk. Staff recommends removal of the No Parking Zone at this location for consistency with similar sections on Ford Street.

Dixie Myers stated she would appreciate the removal of the No Parking Sign. The property is commercial, the street is wide in this area and there are curbs and gutters.

Member Taylor stated that the rule is it has to be taken to council if parking is being taken away, not if parking is being restored.

Member Taylor advised to ask Public Works Director Tim Eriksen if he is comfortable with removing the No Parking Zone without going to council.

Member Seanor added that the portion of Ford Street to west where there is no curb should still be a no parking zone.

M/S: Taylor/Jordan to remove the No Parking Zone at 137 Ford Street and also at similar spots along Ford Street that have the same situation without going to council. Motion passed by an all AYE vote of the members present.

6. COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS
Member Seanor stated bids open on June 24, 2014 for a Slurry Seal Project on residential streets. None of these streets are on bus routes.

Chairman Baxter advised that there will be a small fare increase of MTA rates.

Chairman Baxter stated there is a pothole on Plant Road that could use some work

Member Kageyama stated Plant Road belongs to the county up to the city property at the Waste Water Treatment Plant.

Member Kageyama advised that a grant has been received for the Rail Trail Project. Phase I from Gobbi Street to Clara Street is funded by the grant. Phase II from Gobbi Street south to Commerce Drive does not have funding.

7. MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS
none

8. ADJOURNMENT
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:38 p.m.

Lory Limbird, Recording Secretary